

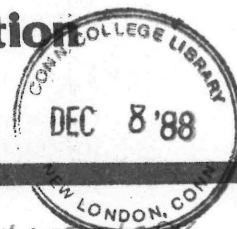
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Conn. Documents

**Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Solid Waste Management Unit**



Volume 7, No. 4

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RECYCLING PROGRAM MAKING PROGRESS

The statewide recycling program is making headway in reaching the 1991 statewide mandatory recycling level of a 25% reduction in the solid waste stream. This issue is an update of current efforts in progress including feasibility studies, facility upgrades, and siting of intermediate processing centers. This summary by region provides an overview of statewide movement in complying with the mandatory recycling legislation.

Southeastern Region - A facility upgrade is under way at the intermediate processing center in Groton and will be completed this fall. When the upgrade is complete, the facility will have the capacity to process 40 tons/day of bottles and cans. Municipalities have applied for and been approved to receive funds from SCRRRA and DEP for collection and composting equipment. In addition, portions of town budgets have been committed to recycling staffing, collection and publicity, and several are developing or implementing mandatory ordinances. Best of all, participation is increasing in our SE demonstration region.

South Central Region - The first draft of the SC program design has been reviewed by regional officials and DEP. The proposed program emphasizes the development of a processing center for household containers with transfer capacity for paper. Sites are being considered and a regional entity to manage the construction and operation of the recycling program is under consideration.

Southwestern Region - DEP has entered into a contract with the SW region for the design of a comprehensive recycling program, and consultants have begun a program design. A recycling coordinator has been hired and potential IPC sites are being investigated. A regional entity to manage the construction and operation of the recycling program is being considered.

Feasibility Studies - All of the other municipalities in the state are participating in the state-funded regional planning process for recycling. Twelve established regions in addition to the three mentioned above have begun to submit reports to DEP detailing the progress of the feasibility studies.

The goal of the feasibility studies is to conduct an inventory of solid waste and recycling information and to form regions with sufficient population base (approx. 400,000) to support efficient regional recycling programs. At the end of the feasibility studies, the municipalities will identify the region with which they expect to be affiliated for recycling purposes. Municipalities may choose not to join a region, in which case they will be subject to being ordered to participate in a regional project if they do not meet the state's recycling goals.

SPECIAL RECYCLING PROJECTS

Harkness State Park - A pilot program to recycle the bottles and cans generated in the park began in July, and by the end of August 1300 pounds of bottles and cans from the park had been processed at the Groton IPC.

Urban Recycling Project - Consultants (John Schall who was recycling coordinator of MA and Maurice Sampson who was recycling coordinator of Newark and then Philadelphia) have been hired to focus on the recycling needs of Connecticut's largest cities (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford, and Waterbury). They will provide a reference library, a needs assessment and plan of action for each city, a recycling manual for use in other urban settings, and training for local officials. Each city has designated staff to work with the state's consultants, and DEP staff members are participating in the project to assure the Department of ongoing expertise.

Paper Procurement - A joint effort by ten states associated with the Northeastern Recycling Council (Part of the Northeast Council of Governments) has developed uniform definitions and standards for paper purchases by states. The uniformity will enhance the ability of these states to encourage the production of paper with post-consumer content. A survey of paper types purchased by the states and a data collection and communication system were part of the project. Participants will meet a year from now to evaluate progress in preparing paper products with recycled content.

Composting Project - DEP has contracted with the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service to produce a leaf composting manual for use by municipal officials. The manual, which is now being prepared for printing, covers collection and processing systems, marketing and economic analysis. It will be introduced at workshops held in various parts of the state. A home composting pilot in SE Connecticut is also part of the project. Forty-five volunteer "master composters" have been trained to teach and promote backyard composting.

RECYCLING PUBLICITY AND EDUCATION

A publicity and education plan in support of the statewide recycling program has been written and approved. The public education effort will be tested first in the SE demonstration region and includes radio and television public service announcements, an introductory video presentation, written support materials and the training of local recycling coordinators and officials. A training manual on obtaining publicity for local programs and the use of other support materials will also be available. Publicity efforts will be concentrated by region and work through regional recycling coordinators.

COMING NEXT MONTH...A continued recycling update featuring Packaging and Waste Reduction, State Office Paper Recycling, Plastics Collection and Marketing Demonstration, Commercial and Waste Oil Recycling, Ash Residue and Utilization, Multifamily Recycling and Market Development.

OOPS!! - Last month's issue on Scrap Metal Recycling failed to mention a scrap processor who will accept white goods if capacitors and ballasts are removed:

Environmental Maintenance
75 East Aurora St.
Waterbury, CT 06708
(203) 754-2111



RECYCLE BUSINESS CARDS

The DEP is happy to announce that all Department business cards will be printed on recycled paper from now on...

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Department of Environmental Protection
Solid Waste Management Unit
State Office Building
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
Kim Marcy, Editor
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